

**ECONOMIC REGENERATION AND TRANSPORT SCRUTINY PANEL  
VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR AND MIDDLESBROUGH VOLUNTARY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY – ACTION PLAN**

**DATE: 18 MARCH 2014**

<b>SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATION</b>	<b>PROPOSED ACTION</b>	<b>BY WHOM</b>	<b>BUDGET COST</b>	<b>TIMESCALE</b>
<p><b>1. That, in order to maximise its effectiveness and to take into account forthcoming likely changes in local authority working arrangements and service delivery, the existing Compact Agreement between Middlesbrough Council and voluntary and community sector organisations is revised and updated.</b></p>	<p>The recommendation is welcomed and the following process proposed to start April 2014::</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review existing document</li> <li>• Consultation period</li> <li>• Agree revised document</li> <li>• Publish and promote</li> </ul>	<p>Martin Harvey, Community Regeneration Manager</p>	<p>Officer time, admin. costs, design and production costs £1,000</p>	<p>Complete September 2014</p>
<p><b>2. That, in order to increase opportunities to engage the voluntary and community sector in service provision and to assist the Council in commissioning appropriate and cost-effective services:</b></p> <p><b>a) The recently produced Draft Local Framework for Voluntary and Community Sector Engagement in Commissioning is formally adopted as a positive way forward.</b></p> <p><b>b) The provisions of The Public</b></p>	<p>As part of the Change Programme a review of commissioning processes and services is to be undertaken in the future. It is suggested that both of these items can be considered as part of that process, rather than arrive at a position now which may be subject to change once the review is undertaken.</p>	<p>Paul Stephens, Change Programme Manager and Commissioning Review lead</p>	<p>Officer time</p>	<p>To be determined.</p>

<p><b>Services (Social Value) Act 2012 are used to maximum effect to ensure that services commissioned and procured improve the economic, social and environmental well-being of the area and to direct work, wherever possible, to the voluntary and community sector. All Council service areas involved in service commissioning should be made aware of the provisions and implications of the Act.</b></p>				
<p><b>3. That, given the possibility of further developing public sector commissioning opportunities for the voluntary and community sector, and the implications that this is likely to have on all Council service areas, the membership of the authority's Voluntary Sector Liaison Group is widened to include greater Council service representation - for example when particular services are being reviewed as part of the authority's Change Programme. In all cases, full consideration should be given to how/whether future service provision can involve the VCS.</b></p>	<p>This recommendation is welcomed. Agreement has been reached with the Change Programme Manager to attend VSLG on a regular basis to share relevant review areas and determine whether, with the VCS, further discussion/input may be beneficial to both parties. Where more detailed input is required this will be co-facilitated by MVDA and the Council.</p>	<p>Paul Stephens, Change Programme Manager</p>	<p>Officer time</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p><b>4. That the wide-ranging and valuable work of MVDA in supporting the local</b></p>	<p>Funding for 2014/15 is in place for MVDA at the current grant level but is awaiting confirmation of the full</p>	<p>Martin Harvey, Community Regeneration</p>	<p>£40,905/annum</p>	<p>Annual</p>

<p><b>VCS, and the validation of MVDA's work by the independent study carried out in 2011, is noted and (subject to the necessary budget considerations and process) Council core funding to MVDA is continued.</b></p>	<p>Voluntary Sector Grants package. The importance of this core grant to MVDA is recognised, particularly in light of the more general reduction in funding from a wide variety of sources available to VCS organisations.</p>	<p>Manager</p>		
<p><b>5. That MVDA is requested to undertake work on its Sector Connector database to ensure that the database is kept up to date; that only properly constituted and bona-fide organisations are listed; and that data listed is current and relevant to any named Council Wards. MVDA should also report back on progress in approximately six months' time.</b></p>	<p>MVDA's response - In the current environment voluntary and community organisations form, fold and change their legal status, structures and personnel, on a reasonably regular basis with agencies such as MVDA being heavily reliant on receiving accurate information from them on these changes. In the absence of dedicated resourcing for maintaining our database, this is one of a number of on-going tasks for central administration staff.</p>	<p>Dinah Lane, MVDA</p>	<p>Admin. time</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>